

Learning English as a Second Language through Digital Platforms : A comprehensive study based on undergraduate level young learners -Faculty of Arts, University of Jaffna

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Emergence of improved technology and digital platforms have reshaped the way of language learning in an easy way. Thus, technology-based language learning gained extensive attention by young learners, as they are actively engaging to the digital platforms for various domains of purposes. This study aims to examine the efficiency and benefits of digital platforms in English language enhancement, as a second language learner, specifically focused on reading and writing skills developments, emphasizing utilisation of digital platforms as a tool for language learning. The study used a mixed method of qualitative and quantitative research designs by collecting data from 25 ESL learners from Faculty of Arts, University of Jaffna, in social sciences group. Informants were selected randomly from the group to answer a questionnaire survey and to respond formal, informal and semi-structured interviews and discussions. The data collected through those methods were analysed statistically. The results revealed that students showed high level of interest and moderate level of literacy skills as well as the understanding level of utilisation of digital platforms as a tool for second language acquisition. The findings showed a positive significance of the correlation between learning English and digital platform for learning purposes. This study contributes significantly to identify the possibilities and availability of learning English as a second language learner. The results recommend for the investigations in addressing factors that involved and motivated the efficient utilisation of digital platforms.

Keywords: Digital platforms, Technology based language learning, ESL young learners, Literacy skills, positive correlation, efficient utilisation